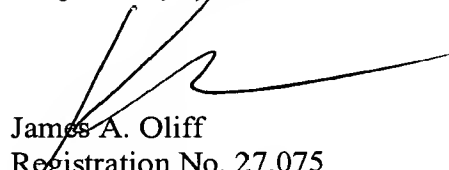


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Abstract and specification are replaced with an amended Abstract and substitute specification, claims 1-8 are amended, and claims 9 and 10 are added.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Kevin M. McKinley  
Registration No. 43,794

JAO:KMM/gam

**Attachments:**

Copy of February 19, 2004 Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission  
Copy of March 10, 2004 Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission  
Amended Abstract  
Substitute Specification  
Marked-up Copy of Specification

Date: April 23, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
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